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37. *RANA BHAGMANDLENSIS*: A JUNIOR SYNONYM OF *RANA AURANTIACA* BOULENGER (ANURA: RANIDAE)

Rana aurantiaca, previously known only from southern India, was reported by Grandison and Senanayake (1966) from Sri Lanka. Their description was based on six adult females collected on a herpetological trip made in December 1965 by Senanayake and V. Atukoralei in the Kanneliya Forest, south Sri Lanka.

Rana aurantiaca was considered by Rao (1922) as very closely related to his new species, *Rana bhagmandlensis*, in his original description of the species. The latter was still accepted as a valid taxon in the most recent taxonomic survey of *Rana* (Frost 1985).

I have compared the holotype of *bhagmandlensis*, which is one of the two available specimens (the other one is at the Indian Museum, Calcutta), and have compared it with the holotype and a series of other specimens of *aurantiaca* from India and Sri Lanka. Rao (1922) pointed out that the holotype of *bhagmandlensis* was examined by Miss Procter of the British Museum, London, and she wrote to Rao that the holotype agrees well with Boulenger's (1920) description of *aurantiaca*. Rao (1922) also compared the types with *aurantiaca* and commented that their characters and coloration are alike except for the smaller size of *bhagmandlensis*.

My examination of all available pertinent material revealed that Rao's (1922) *bhagmandlensis* agrees with the characters of *aurantiaca*, and accordingly I here consider *bhagmandlensis* as a junior synonym of *aurantiaca*.

Rana aurantiaca Boulenger, 1904

Rana aurantiaca, 1904, J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 15(3): 430-431; Rec. Indian Mus., Calcutta 20:157-158 (1920); Rao, 1937, Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. 6(6): 424-425; Grandison and Senanayake, 1966, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 13(9): 419-421; Frost, 1985, Amphibian Species of the World. *Specimens examined*: BM1947.2.2.92 (holotype of *Rana aurantiaca*: Trivandrum, Travancore, Kerala); BM 1967.533-535, 537-538 (Kanneliya Forest, Sri Lanka); AMNH 80086 (Southern Province, Kanneliya, Sinharaja, Sri Lanka); AMNH 78924 (Southern Province, Kanneliya, Sri Lanka); CAS 101609 (South Kanara, Kadnjar Khana, Mysore, India); BM1947.2.2.12 (holotype of *Rana bhagmandlensis*): forests of Bhagamandla, Coorg, Mysore. *Distribution*: Trivandrum, Kerala; Coorg and Kadnjar Khana, Karnataka (India); Kanneliya Forest, Udugama (Sri Lanka).

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38. AMPHIBIANS FROM INDIA - SOME FURTHER SPECIES

The most recent review of the diversity and zoogeography of the amphibian fauna of India by Inger and Dutta (1986) listed 181 species, distributed in 9 families. Chanda and Ghosh (1988) added 13 more species, which were omitted in the earlier review, but included *Bufo sulphureus* Grandison and Daniel (1964)

which had been synonymised under *Bufo koynayensis* Soman (1963) by Frost (1985). A literature search revealed that 12 more valid species of Indian amphibians, belonging to 4 families, were still not incorporated, being overlooked or described subsequent to the aforementioned compilations. These, along with their sources, have been